

ZFIRE: THE KINEMATICS OF STAR-FORMING GALAXIES AS A FUNCTION OF ENVIRONMENT AT $z \sim 2$

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ABSTRACT

We perform a kinematic analysis of galaxies at $z \sim 2$ in the COSMOS legacy field using near-infrared (NIR) spectroscopy from Keck/MOSFIRE as part of the ZFIRE survey. Our sample consists of 75 Ks-band selected star-forming galaxies from the ZFOURGE survey with stellar masses ranging from $\log(M_*/M_\odot) = 9.0 - 11.0$, 28 of which are members of a known overdensity at $z = 2.095$. We measure H α emission-line integrated velocity dispersions (σ_{int}) from 50–230 km s^{−1}, consistent with other emission-line studies of $z \sim 2$ field galaxies. From these data we estimate virial, stellar, and gas masses and derive correlations between these properties for cluster and field galaxies at $z \sim 2$. We find evidence that baryons dominate within the central effective radius. However, we find no statistically significant differences between the cluster and the field, and conclude that the kinematics of star-forming galaxies at $z \sim 2$ are not significantly different between the cluster and field environments.

Subject headings: galaxies: evolution

1. INTRODUCTION

At $z > 1$, cluster galaxies have significant ongoing star formation (Rettura et al. 2010; Tran et al. 2010; Brodwin et al. 2013; Santos et al. 2014). The presence of emission lines in cluster galaxies at $z > 1.5$ provides an opportunity to investigate the effect of environment on emission line scaling relations. Galaxy properties in the local universe depend strongly on environment, e.g. stellar mass, gas fraction, morphology, and star formation rate (SFR) (Dressler 1980). However, at $z \sim 2$ little evidence for environmental effects on SFR and the Mass-Metallicity Relation (Tran et al. 2010; Kacprzak et al. 2015) and minor effects on size (Allen et al. 2015) have been observed. Kinematics and dynamical masses, which probe more fundamental properties of galaxies, so far have not been tested in cluster environments at $z > 1.5$.

Kinematic scaling relations track how mass and luminosity are correlated and can be interpreted in terms of

stellar mass and dynamical (total) mass. Studies of local emission line scaling relations, like the Tully-Fisher relation (Tully & Fisher 1977, TFR), find that cluster and field populations follow the same trends (Mocz et al. 2012; Bösch et al. 2013). It is unknown if environment is correlated with kinematics at higher redshifts, as few clusters have been confirmed at $z > 1.5$.

Observations of field galaxies show that stellar-mass scaling relations stay relatively consistent with local measurements until $z \sim 1.7$ (Kassin et al. 2007; Miller et al. 2011; Di Teodoro et al. 2016). Some observations also suggest that these relations evolve at $z > 2$ (Cresci et al. 2009; Gnerucci et al. 2011; Straatman et al. in prep). This is possibly because gas fractions are higher at these redshifts, as supported by recent observations (Daddi et al. 2010; Tacconi et al. 2013) and predicted by simulations (Dutton et al. 2011). It is unclear whether cluster galaxies follow the same trends as the field, or if they evolve at higher redshift. As such, offsets in kinematics between cluster and field galaxies could indicate different evolutionary states in denser environments, e.g. the increasing fraction with redshift of post-starburst galaxies in clusters that span a range of velocity dispersions (Tran et al. 2003).

Observations have shown that kinematics for both resolved and unresolved objects can be tracked using integrated velocity dispersion, σ_{int} , measured with emission lines such as H α (for a review of kinematic surveys using this technique, see Glazebrook (2013)). Here we present the most distant study yet to compare H α kinematics of individual cluster galaxies and field galaxies. Our data consists of objects measured by the ZFIRE¹² survey (Nanayakkara et al. submitted), including the $z = 2.095$ overdense region in the COSMOS field (Spitler et al. 2012; Yuan et al. 2014).

ZFIRE targets galaxy clusters at $z \sim 2$ to explore galaxy evolution as a function of environment. ZFIRE combines deep multi-wavelength imaging with spectroscopy obtained from Keck/MOSFIRE (McLean

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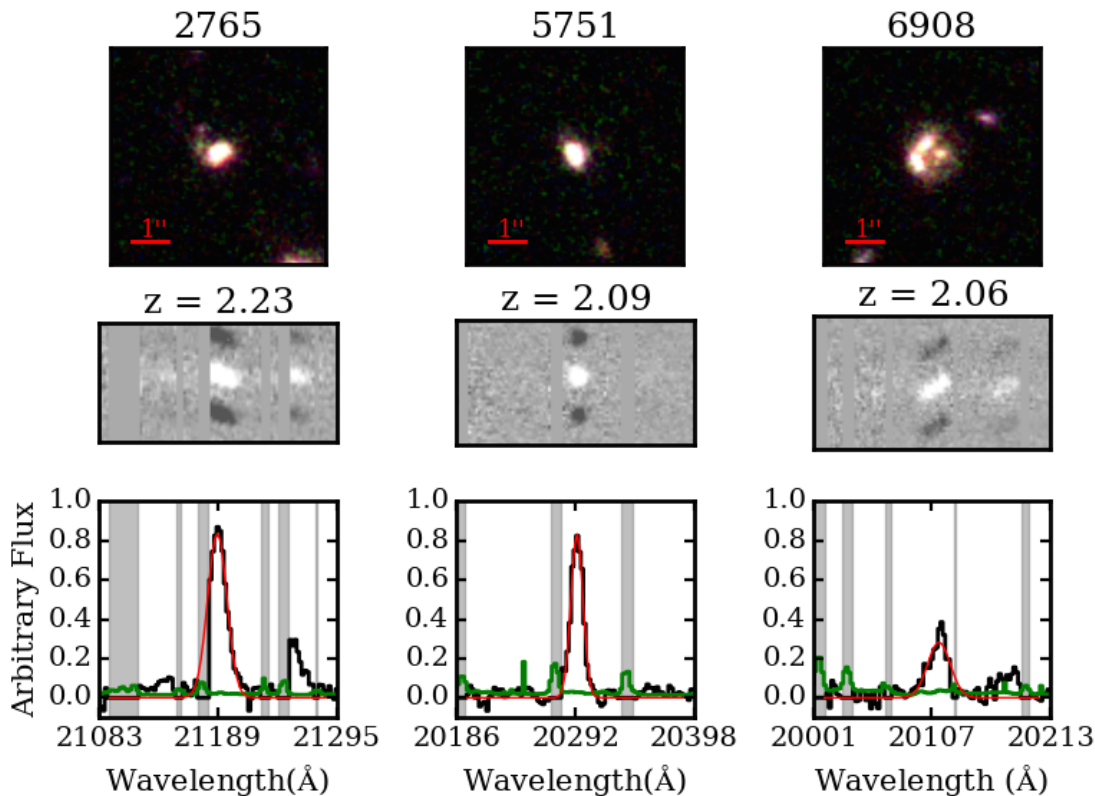


FIG. 1.— Top: RGB images of three galaxies in the ZFIRE sample. ID numbers are object IDs listed in the ZFIRE catalog (Nanayakkara et al. submitted). RGB colors are from CANDELS/3D-HST imaging in F160W (Red), F140W (Green), and F125W (Blue). Middle: Example flux and telluric corrected spectra from the ZFIRE pipeline corresponding to the images in the top row. Here we see the $H\alpha$ and $[NII]$ emission lines. Bottom: 1D summed spectra in black, and the error spectrum in green. We plot the Gaussian fit to the data in red. Masked sky regions are in grey.

et al. 2012) to measure galaxy properties including sizes, stellar masses, star formation rates, gas-phase metallicities, and the interstellar medium (Kacprzak et al. 2015; Kewley et al. 2015; Tran et al. 2015; Nanayakkara et al. submitted).

In this work, we assume a flat Λ CDM cosmology with $\Omega_M=0.3$, $\Omega_\Lambda=0.7$, and $H_0=70$. At the cluster redshift, $z=2.09$, one arcsecond corresponds to an angular scale of 8.33 kpc.

2. DATA

2.1. HST Imaging

Our morphological measurements are from Cosmic Assembly Near-Infrared Deep Extragalactic Survey imaging (Koekemoer et al. 2011; Grogin et al. 2011, CANDELS) processed by the 3D-HST team (v4.1 data release). For details on the reduction of CANDELS imaging, see Skelton et al. (2014). We use GALFIT software (Peng et al. 2010) to measure galaxy sizes from the F160W imaging. Examples of CANDELS/3D-HST imaging of galaxies in our sample can be seen in Figure 1.

We generate a custom pipeline to fit the 161 COSMOS galaxies in ZFIRE with F160W imaging using initial measurements of size, axis ratio (q), position angle (PA), and magnitude from SExtractor (Bertin & Arnouts 1996). Our constraints are adopted from the constraints in van der Wel et al. (2012), and our point-spread function is constructed by 3D-HST. Objects within $2''$ of a target galaxy are simultaneously fit with the central object. Residual images are visually inspected to determine

the best possible fits for each galaxy. Galaxies with poor residuals are refit using a different set of initial parameters, and rejected if a satisfactory solution can not be obtained. Our results are consistent within 2σ to van der Wel et al. (2012).

Errors for our GALFIT measurements are obtained by adding sky noise to the GALFIT model, and rerunning GALFIT 200 times per object. The range of the error is obtained from the 1σ confidence intervals.

The size of the galaxy is obtained using q and the effective radius, r_e , from GALFIT. We convert this to a circularized effective radius using $R_e = r_e\sqrt{q}$. The properties of our overall population show no significant size dependence on environment. This is in conflict with Allen et al. (2015) who find evidence that star-forming galaxies in the cluster are larger than in the field. However, we stress that this is likely because our analysis is limited to the smaller set of $H\alpha$ -detected galaxies.

2.2. ZFOURGE Photometry

The COSMOS cluster was initially identified by Spitler et al. (2012) using photometric redshifts from ZFOURGE (Straatman et al. submitted) and subsequently confirmed with spectroscopic redshifts from MOSFIRE (Yuan et al. 2014). ZFOURGE combines broad-band imaging in K and the medium-band J_1 , J_2 , J_3 , H_s , and H_l filters to select objects using Ks-band images with a 5σ limit of 25.3 AB magnitudes.

ZFOURGE uses FAST (Kriek et al. 2009) to fit stellar population synthesis models to the galaxy spectral

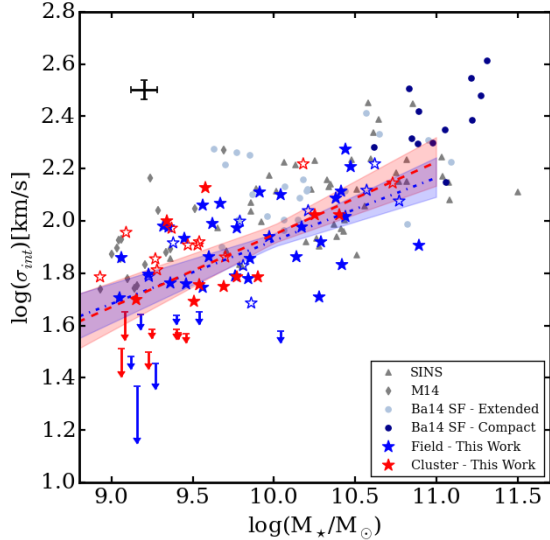


FIG. 2.— Stellar mass vs σ_{int} of the ZFIRE galaxies. Size and color of the points refers to the quality of the spectroscopic measurement: filled points for confirmed line widths, outlined points for faint emission lines or emission lines partially obscured by sky interference. Blue stars are field galaxies, and red stars are galaxies in the $z \sim 2.09$ cluster identified in Spitler et al. (2012). Characteristic errorbars are located in the upper left, in black. We compare the ZFIRE COSMOS sample with emission-line $z \sim 2$ field galaxies from Barro et al. (2014) (written as Ba14), Förster Schreiber et al. (2009) (written as (SINS), and Masters et al. (2014) (written as M14). Objects with line width less than instrumental resolution are displayed as upper limits. The bootstrapped 1σ confidence intervals of the least-squares linear fits are shown as translucent boxes around the best fit lines. We see no significant difference between the best-fit relations for cluster and field.

energy distributions to estimate observed galaxy properties. We assume a Chabrier (2003) initial mass function with constant solar metallicity and an exponentially declining star formation rate, and a Calzetti et al. (2000) dust law.

2.3. MOSFIRE NIR Spectroscopy

Observations were taken in December 2013 and February 2014 in the K-band filter covering $1.93\text{--}2.45 \mu\text{m}$, the wavelength range we would expect to see $H\alpha$ and $[NII]$ at the cluster redshift. Targets were star-forming galaxies (SFGs) selected from rest frame UVJ colors. Seeing varied from $\sim 0.4''$ to $\sim 0.7''$ over the course of our observations.

The spectra are flat-fielded, wavelength calibrated, and sky subtracted using the MOSFIRE data reduction pipeline (DRP)¹. We use a custom ZFIRE pipeline to correct for telluric absorption and perform a spectrophotometric flux calibration using a type A0V standard star. We flux calibrate our objects to the continuum of the standard star, and use ZFOURGE photometry to correct offsets between photometric and spectroscopic magnitudes. The final result of the DRP are flux-calibrated 2D spectra (see examples in Figure 1) and 2D 1σ images used for error analysis, with a bootstrapped flux calibration error of $< 10\%$ (~ 0.08 magnitudes). For more information on ZFIRE spectroscopic data reduction, see Nanayakkara et al. (submitted).

We extract 1D spectra from an aperture the width of

the one Gaussian sigma (1σ) boundaries of the spatial $H\alpha$ emission-line profile. Varying the aperture width does not affect our results. The 1D $H\alpha$ line width is determined by fitting a Gaussian profile to the $H\alpha$ emission line. We subtract the measured instrumental broadening in quadrature from the line width, and convert the corrected line width to σ_{int} using the best-fit redshift from Nanayakkara et al. (submitted). Errors are calculated by adding sky noise to the observed spectrum, and refitting 1000 times.

We test if slit misalignment affects our results. After rejecting objects with $\Delta\alpha > 40^\circ$, where $\Delta\alpha$ is the difference between the GALFIT-measured PA and the angle of the slit, our sample decreases to 26 objects overall, 7 in the cluster. However, our results do not significantly change, so we conclude the slit misalignment does not significantly affect our final results for our scaling relations or virial mass measurements and do not include galaxy PA corrections or restrictions in our analysis.

All Gaussian line fits are visually inspected. Emission lines with sky contamination are given a lower quality flag than emission lines without contamination, but are included in our sample (Figure 2). Measurements with signatures of AGN as detected in Cowley et al. (2016), objects completely obscured by sky emission, or objects too faint to detect manually are excluded from our analysis. After our rejection criteria, the sample contains 75 COSMOS galaxies, 28 of which are associated with the $z \sim 2$ cluster.

The cluster objects are defined as objects identified with three strongly overdense regions of the COSMOS field. In Spitler et al. (2012), these overdensities are found by computing surface density maps. In Yuan et al. (2014), these objects are spectroscopically confirmed and concentrated at $z_c = 2.095$, and are consistent with a Gaussian distribution with $\sigma_z = 0.005$. The redshift range for the cluster is defined to be $z_c \pm 3\sigma_z$. The COSMOS overdensity velocity dispersion is measured to be $\sigma_{v1D} = 552 \pm 52 \text{ km s}^{-1}$, and has 57 spectroscopically confirmed members. It consists of four major groups that cover a total projected size of $3.7 \times 5 \text{ Mpc}^2$ ($7.4 \times 10 \text{ Mpc}^2$ comoving). The cluster is most likely to evolve into a Virgo-like cluster at $z \sim 0$ (from ΛCDM simulations, see Yuan et al. 2014). Field objects are defined as targetted objects not within the cluster redshift range or associated spatially with the cluster.

3. RESULTS

3.1. $H\alpha$ Emission-Line Widths at $z \sim 2$

By measuring kinematics from the $H\alpha$ line width, we assume that the broadening is caused by the gravitational potential of the galaxy acting on the gas. We also use σ_{int} since it can be measured for all galaxies, even those with unresolved rotation, and is robust against PSF effects. σ_{int} could trace rotation, velocity dispersion, or a combination of both quantities (Glazebrook 2013; Barro et al. 2014; Masters et al. 2014). $H\alpha$ integrated velocity dispersions of ZFIRE COSMOS galaxies range from $\sim 50\text{--}230 \text{ km s}^{-1}$, an expected distribution of values for extended (rather than compact) SFGs (Figure 2). The median σ_{int} is 72.8 km s^{-1} .

We determine a linear least-squares fit to the cluster, field, and total ZFIRE samples (Table 1) normalized at

¹ <http://www2.keck.hawaii.edu/inst/mosfire/drp.html>

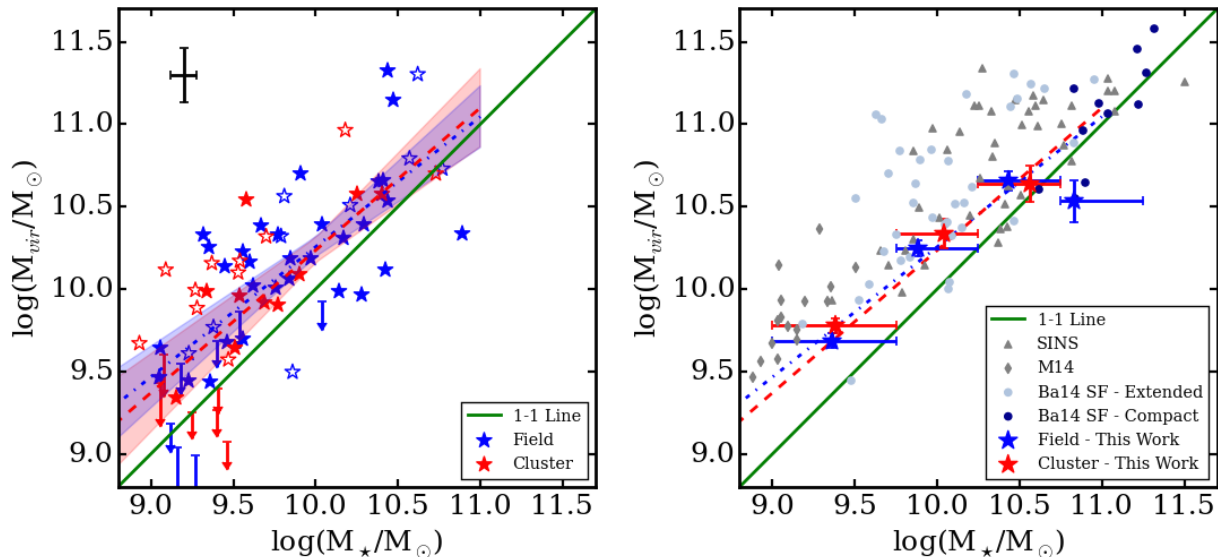


FIG. 3.— Left: Estimated virial masses obtained from the virial formula vs. stellar masses. Best-fit relations are included with 1σ deviation boxes, in the same colors as represented in Figure 2. Right: Virial masses binned by stellar mass. Errors in $\log(M_*/M_\odot)$ are the width of each bin. We compare the ZFIRE sample to the $z \sim 2$ field galaxies of Förster Schreiber et al. (2009), Barro et al. (2014), and Masters et al. (2014) to find consistent values with extended SFGs.

$\log(M_*)=10$. The least-square linear fits relation is of the form $\log(y) = A(\log(x)-10) + B$. The best-fit relation is bootstrapped 1000 times to determine 1σ confidence intervals of the linear fit. The best-fit $\log(M_*)$ - $\log(\sigma_{\text{int}})$ relations for cluster ($A = 0.28 \pm 0.06$, $B = 1.95 \pm 0.03$) and field ($A = 0.24 \pm 0.05$, $B = 1.92 \pm 0.03$) are consistent within 1σ (Table 1), indicating no evidence of environmental influence on kinematics. The median residual of the points around each best-fit line is ~ 0.12 dex, and cluster and field relations overlap within this scatter. Our results do not depend on whether or not we apply weighting from our errors on σ_{int} .

To quantify our ability to recover 1D line widths, we use a set of 2D emission-line models with exponential disks, an arctan rotation profile, and known v_{rot} and gas σ . We add sky noise (as measured from our data) to the modeled galaxies, and collapse each emission line (simulated and with sky noise) to 1D line widths. We find that the simulated emission lines with noise differ by only $\sim 0.01\%$ compared to the input models.

We confirm that our results on cluster versus field do not depend on inclination corrections. To correct for inclination, Straatman et al. (in prep) and Price et al. (2016) assume that the intrinsic axis ratio is $q_0 = 0.19$. When we apply this correction, the scatter of our points around our best-fit values decreases by ~ 0.01 dex and the values are offset from the uncorrected values by 0.05 dex. If we do not correct for inclination, we tend to underestimate the input virial mass of our modeled galaxies by ~ 0.25 dex. However, this assumes that the models accurately represent the true galaxy kinematics. Because an inclination correction does require assuming an intrinsic axis ratio and applying an inclination correction does not change our overall results, we use uncorrected σ_{int} values so that we can compare directly to recent results by Barro et al. (2014); Masters et al. (2014). We will explore the effects of inclination corrections in future work.

In the right panel of Figure 1 we compare the ZFIRE sample to the 1D field objects of Barro et al. (2014),

the 1D field objects of Masters et al. (2014), and the 2D Integral Field Unit (IFU) field objects of the Spectroscopic Imaging survey in the NIR with SINFONI sample (Förster Schreiber et al. 2009, SINS). We see consistent values of σ_{int} with SFGs in these samples. We also have compared our emission-line kinematics with the independent analysis of ZFIRE spectra presented by Straatman et al. (in prep), and find consistent 1D line widths with their collapsed best-fit 2D kinematic models.

3.2. Virial Masses

In Figure 3 we compare estimated virial mass to stellar mass for the COSMOS field and cluster objects and to other high-redshift kinematic surveys. While stellar mass can be estimated by spectral energy distribution fitting, which examines stellar populations and colors, virial mass accounts for the total mass of the galaxy including gas and dark matter.

To calculate virial mass, we apply the virial formula

$$M_{\text{vir}}(< R_e) = K_e \frac{\sigma_{\text{int}}^2 R_e}{G}. \quad (1)$$

For comparison to recent results by Barro et al. (2014); Masters et al. (2014), we assume a virial factor $K_e = 5$. We find that our virial masses are consistent with these existing studies and Förster Schreiber et al. (2009). Our linear best-fit relations for the cluster and field (Table 1) shows no significant environmental impact on our fits: cluster and field relations differ by $< 1\sigma$.

In our analysis, we use a constant virial factor but note that K_e depends on the structural parameters of the galaxy. Values in the literature range from $K_e \sim 2 - 10$ and using, e.g. $K_e = 3.4$ from Erb et al. (2006) will introduce an offset of ~ -0.2 dex in our results. However, we stress that the relative comparison between cluster and field does not change.

3.3. Estimating Gas Mass from the Kennicutt-Schmidt Relation

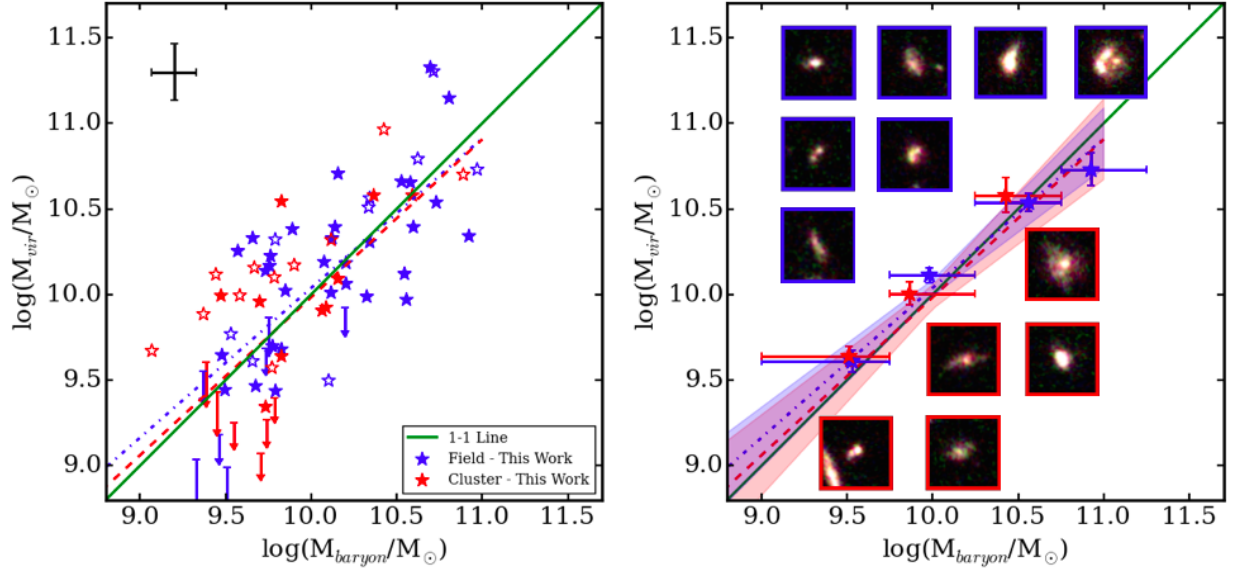


FIG. 4.— Left: Virial masses obtained from the virial formula compared to estimated baryonic masses. Baryonic masses are from the addition of stellar masses and gas masses computed from dust-corrected $H\alpha$ fluxes and the Kennicutt-Schmidt relation (Kennicutt 1998). We use the same colors as represented in Figure 2, with characteristic errorbars for our data in black in the upper left of the panel. Right: Virial mass binned by baryonic mass. We include $3'' \times 3''$ RGB images of selected galaxies in each bin. Borders around the RGB cutouts are blue for field galaxies, and red for cluster galaxies.

Gas masses are estimated from the Schmidt-Kennicutt relation (referred to here as the Kennicutt-Schmidt relation) (Kennicutt 1998), using SFRs from $H\alpha$ line fluxes corrected for dust using the method described in Tran et al. (2015). We assume a nebular attenuation from Cardelli et al. (1989) with $R_V = 3.1$, and a Calzetti et al. (2000) dust law. We calculate the SFR surface density, $\Sigma_{\text{SFR}} = \text{SFR}/(\pi R_{H\alpha}^2)$ and use the Kennicutt-Schmidt relation to solve for gas surface density, $\Sigma_{\text{gas}} = M_{\text{gas}}/(\pi R_{H\alpha}^2)$. $R_{H\alpha}$ is the circularized effective radius in kiloparsecs, after we have applied a correction factor from Nelson et al. (2015) to estimate the $H\alpha$ radius from the stellar radius and mass. We add the estimated gas mass to the stellar mass to derive baryonic masses.

In Figure 4, we show a comparison between estimated baryonic and virial masses. Objects move closer to the unity relation than in Figure 3 due to high gas masses (the median gas fraction in the ZFIRE sample is 0.36, typical of the field galaxies seen in Tacconi et al. (2013)). This implies most objects are baryon-dominated within one effective radius. We again find no significant environmental impact on the values for M_{baryon} vs. M_{vir} , relations are consistent within 1σ . The MOSDEF survey similarly finds that field galaxies at $z \sim 2$ are distributed around the 1-1 line (Price et al. 2016).

4. SUMMARY

Using the Keck I MOSFIRE NIR spectrograph, we measure $H\alpha$ emission lines of 28 COSMOS $z = 2.095$ star-forming cluster galaxies and 47 star-forming field galaxies to investigate environmental effects on high-redshift protoclusters. Our objects are rest frame UVJ selected star-forming galaxies with no detected X-Ray, IR, or radio AGN signatures. We measure $H\alpha$ line widths to derive integrated velocity dispersions, σ_{int} , and use CANDELS/3DHST F160W imaging to measure galaxy sizes.

We derive high-redshift emission-line kinematic scal-

ing relations and did not find any significant environmental effects; cluster and field least-squares linear relations were consistent within error. Compared to previous multi-slit and IFU kinematic surveys of the $z \sim 2$ field, Barro et al. (2014); Masters et al. (2014); Förster Schreiber et al. (2009), we find consistent results in the M_{\star} - σ_{int} relation with extended SFGs.

We estimate virial masses (which includes stellar, dark matter, and gas mass) for our galaxies from our gas kinematics. Gas masses were derived from dust-corrected $H\alpha$ star-formation rates and the Kennicutt-Schmidt relation, and added to stellar masses to estimate baryonic masses. The median values for $\log(M_{\text{vir}}/M_{\star})$ and $\log(M_{\text{vir}}/M_{\text{baryon}})$ are 0.30 and 0.07, respectively. We find consistent values between baryonic and virial mass estimates, showing baryon dominance within one effective radius from the center of these galaxies. There is no statistically significant evidence of environmental impacts on our sample; cluster and field best-fit relations in M_{\star} - M_{vir} and M_{baryon} - M_{vir} are consistent within 1σ .

Our results demonstrate that the integrated gas kinematics of SFGs in the $z = 2.095$ overdensity are not strongly dependent on environment. Further studies of $z > 1.5$ cluster galaxies are needed to confirm our results. In addition, studies of $z > 1.5$ cluster galaxy absorption-line kinematics would also provide an opportunity to compare gas and stellar kinematics. In future work we will present an analysis of the Tully-Fisher relation of our galaxies to investigate the contributions of rotational velocity and velocity dispersion as a function of environment.

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TABLE 1
VALUES FOR ALL WEIGHTED LEAST-SQUARE LINEAR FITS^a TO ZFIRE CLUSTER AND FIELD DATA

x	y	Environment	A^b	B^b	N^c	Residual ^d
M_\star	σ_{int}^e	Cluster	0.28 ± 0.06	1.95 ± 0.03	28	0.12
		Field	0.24 ± 0.05	1.92 ± 0.03	47	0.13
		Total	0.25 ± 0.04	1.93 ± 0.02	75	0.11
M_\star	M_{vir}	Cluster	0.86 ± 0.16	10.23 ± 0.08	28	0.30
		Field	0.79 ± 0.13	10.26 ± 0.06	47	0.21
		Total	0.82 ± 0.10	10.25 ± 0.05	75	0.24
M_{baryon}	M_{vir}	Cluster	0.92 ± 0.17	9.98 ± 0.07	28	0.32
		Field	0.87 ± 0.12	10.04 ± 0.05	47	0.23
		Total	0.90 ± 0.11	10.02 ± 0.04	75	0.25

^a The least-square linear fits relation is of the form $\log(y) = A(\log(x)-10) + B$.

^b Errors are determined by bootstrapping the data 1000 times, and determining the 1σ confidence intervals of the bootstrapped results.

^c N is the number of objects used for the linear fit.

^d The residual quoted is the median residual value from the best fit line.

^e σ_{int} is in units of km s^{-1} . We do not apply a weight to these fits.

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